

Appl. No. : 09/651,051
Filed : August 24, 2000

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed September 4, 2003 Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following comments.

Previous Amendment

Applicant notes that the Examiner did not enter the Amendment After Final filed on November 26, 2003 by Applicant.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that Claims 13-24 and 28 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner indicated that Claim 26 contained patentable subject matter and would be in condition for allowance if it was rewritten into independent form. In this amendment, Claim 26 has been rewritten into independent form and is thus now in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 3-7 and 25

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection of these claims for the reasons set forth in the previous office actions. Nevertheless, Applicant has canceled these claims to advance issuance of the allowable subject matter.

Withdrawn Claims

Claims 8-12, and 27 were previously withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected species. These claims have now been canceled.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is most earnestly solicited.

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the case and to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney in order to resolve such issue promptly.

Appl. No. : 09/651,051
Filed : August 24, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: December 23, 2003

By: 

Rabinder N. Narula
Registration No. 53,371
Attorney of Record
2040 Main Street
Fourteenth Floor
Irvine, CA 92614
(949) 760-0404

G:\docs\Yamaha\F5639am3.doc
06/06/03 9:22 AM